



**Glanville Crawford Martyn**

1893–1957





## Foreword

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My grandfather Glan Martyn died 2½ years before I was born, so he never got to meet any of his grandchildren, and we never got to meet him. My mother, Shirley, often spoke fondly of her father, describing him as a man who never lost his temper and was always delighted to see his children, even if he last saw them only at breakfast.

Glan never wrote any diaries or journals, so most of what I know about him comes from Mum's recollections, Uncle Bob's recollections, various photos and scraps that have survived, and military records that my father, George Stevens, tracked down. Despite his being a hugely popular pianist and orchestra leader during the 1920s to the 1950s, almost nothing survives of his performances, save a couple of newspaper notices (held in the National Library of Australia's Trove collection) and a photocopy of a photograph that is lost.

And with one exception, no recordings of Glan were ever made. The exception is a recording made in his house in 1957, shortly before he died. Mum had a copy of this—a 33⅓ rpm acetate disc on an aluminium platter—which eventually succumbed to craquelure and entropy, but not before a copy was made on CD. Mum couldn't bear to listen to the record for decades after her father's death as the memories brought her to tears. But we later generations can listen to it and value it as a tangible link to Glan.

As well as my late father for gathering all the bits and pieces and my late mother for labelling and dating a lot of the photos, I thank my uncle Bob Martyn for his corrections to this biography and his anecdotes about his father; and Anne Taylor, a descendant of Richard Martin in Wales, for historical details.

Matthew Stevens  
Thornleigh, NSW  
September 2021

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The only known photograph of John Martyn in existence. This is an enlargement of photo TT712 of the William Henry Corkhill Collection of glass plates, circa 1903.



Dorothy née Crawford Martyn in 1916.

| LIST of IMMIGRANTS per ship |               |                |           |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    | <i>"Annie H. Smith"</i> |          |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|----|-----------------------|----|----------------------|----|---------------------|----|-------------------------|----------|--|--|----------|--|--|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| No.                         | Name.         |                | AGES.     |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         |          |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               |                | Married.  | Single.               |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         |          |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               |                |           | 12 years and upwards. |    | 7 years and under 12. |    | 4 years and under 7. |    | 1 year and under 4. |    | Under 1 year.           |          |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               |                |           | M.                    | F. | M.                    | F. | M.                   | F. | M.                  | F. | M.                      | F.       |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             | <i>Martyn</i> | <i>John A</i>  | <i>29</i> |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         |          |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               | <i>Dorothy</i> | <i>25</i> |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         |          |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               | <i>Minnie</i>  |           |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         | <i>5</i> |  |  |          |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               | <i>May</i>     |           |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         |          |  |  | <i>3</i> |  |  |           |  |  |  |  |
|                             |               | <i>Ralph</i>   |           |                       |    |                       |    |                      |    |                     |    |                         |          |  |  |          |  |  | <i>by</i> |  |  |  |  |

## John Martyn and Dorothy Crawford

John Martyn was born in Ponsanooth, Cornwall, UK, on 31 January 1848, to Richard Martin (with an "i") and Eliza Murton.

The family moved to Llantrisant, Glamorgan, Wales, in 1865. Richard's employment is not recorded but it is likely that he was a tin miner, because John began work as a miner in 1860 (at the age of 12!) and worked as a miner in Llantrisant. From boyhood, his best friends were brothers Glanville Dennis Stone (born 1849, St Winnow, Cornwall) and Edward Stone (born ca 1850), who were also miners, recorded as living in Llantrisant in the 1861 census. It is likely that they travelled to the USA together, as in the 1870 US census, all three are recorded as lodging with the family of Josiah Jenkins, another miner from the UK, in Hazelton, Pennsylvania.

John's younger brother, George Francis Martyn, became a composer and bandmaster, perhaps inspired by the popularity of mining brass bands. John had musical talents too, and he joined the church choir in Stockton, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, being a good Methodist man. Here he met Dorothea "Dorothy" Eliza Crawford (born 24 May 1852), the daughter of English immigrants Thomas Crawford and Mary Atkinson, of Scottish ancestry. Dorothy's father was a miner also. John and Dorothy married on 13 March 1871 in her parents' home in Stockton.

Over the next 5 years in Luzerne County, John and Dorothy had three children. The first was Minnie Maud (born 18 May 1872, Hazelton). The second was Mary May (born 1 May 1874, Olyphant). The third was Reginald Ralph Sleeman (born 12 March 1876, Hollywood). As Pennsylvania is home to massive coal deposits, it's likely that John worked as a coal miner.

Why John decided to move to Australia is not recorded, but the discovery of gold there is a likely reason. On 16 April 1877, the immigrant ship *Annie H. Smith* left New York carrying 351 passengers. She arrived in Sydney on 19 July 1877. During the non-stop voyage of 87 days there were five deaths (all children) and two births. Aboard were John Martyn (then aged 29 years) and Dorothy (25), with their three children: Minnie (5), May (3) and Ralph (1). Both John and Dorothy are recorded as being able to read and write.

Also aboard were Glanville Stone and his family. Glanville had married Catherine Gantrell in Pennsylvania in 1874. (Her father, James, and his family, also originally from Cornwall, were also on board.) They settled in Bathurst, NSW, but later moved to New Zealand. He is recorded as having died in Wanganui. Edward stayed in the USA.

It is of passing interest that John was recorded as "John A. Martyn" on the passenger manifest. This is the first record of a middle name. There are suggestions that the "A" stood for Austin, but there is no record on the 1851 or 1861 census of this.

Arrived on the *12<sup>th</sup>* day of *July* 187*7*.

52 12-75

| Calling.     | Native Place and County. | Religion.      | Read or Write. | Remarks. |
|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| <i>Miner</i> | <i>Cornwall</i>          | <i>Methody</i> | <i>do</i>      |          |
|              | <i>United States</i>     | <i>do</i>      | <i>do</i>      |          |
|              | <i>do</i>                |                |                |          |
|              | <i>do</i>                |                |                |          |
|              | <i>do</i>                |                |                |          |



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## REGISTER OF THE HOLDERS OF C

| No. of Certificate. | Name of Holder. | Address.                       | Place of Birth.                   | Date of Birth.            |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 168                 | Martyn, John    | 111 Booth Street,<br>Annandale | Ponsanooth, 3. 2. 48<br>Cornwall. | Com<br>Had<br>Sha<br>Gore |

Photo TT712 of the William Henry Corkhill Collection of glass plate photographs. John Martyn is seated bottom left. The photo is titled "Crib time at Mount Dromedary Company Mine N° 6 tunnel." It dates from about 1903. This is the only known photo of John.



# CERTIFICATES AS MANAGERS, UNDER THE "MINES INSPECTION ACT, 1901."

| Length and Nature of previous Service.  | When Granted.  | Nature of Certificate<br>(Competency or Service or<br>Approved Certificate). | When Suspended. | When Cancelled. | When<br>Renewed or<br>Restored. |
|---|----------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>commenced mining in 1860.<br/>in charge New Era Quartz Mine,<br/>Stawell, Vic. 1882. Dromedary 1891/7.<br/>Reedy Creek 1898.</i> | <i>31.7.02</i> | <i>"</i>   |                 |                 | <i>02/7608</i>                  |

On arrival in Australia, John and Dorothy lived first in Balmain and Annandale, Sydney. The reason is not clear, as there was no coal mining in Balmain until 1901. The fourth child, Arthur Egbert, was born there on 31 May 1878.

In 1880 the family moved to Stawell, Victoria, where John managed a quartz mine, which implies gold mining. The fifth child, Blanche Elizabeth, was born there on 15 June 1880. The sixth child, Richard Thomas Sydney, was born on 28 July 1882. The seventh child, Dorothy Eliza, was born on 27 February 1888.

## Childhood

In late 1891, John took up the role of manager of the Mount Dromedary Proprietary Gold-Mining Company at Mount Dromedary (Gulaga), on the South Coast of NSW. The family moved into the Half Way House on

Reedy Creek, to the west of the mountain, but finding it primitive and cold, they moved in June 1892 to 'Sherringham', a dairy farm established on the coast at Tilba Tilba in the late 1860s. While John worked in the mine on the slopes of Mount Dromedary, Dorothy ran the farm, which supplied milk to the ABC cheese factory. By this time, Minnie had already left home. Dorothy wrote to Minnie:

"... there are five bed rooms a big pantry a big passage through the house it will take a long length of oilcloth to cover it it's about 11 yards long and it very near a yard and a half wide so there no fooling about that passage, a kitchen dining and front room and a nice copper in all we want now is a good load of furniture to make it look nice."

John and Dorothy's eighth and last child was born in this house on 2 November 1893: Glanville Crawford Martyn.

'Sherringham' dairy farm, Tilba Tilba, NSW. The homestead is to the right in the middle distance. Dorothy managed the farm in the 1890s. Glan was born here in 1893.







Tilba Tilba Public School, where Glan attended. Photo TT391 of the William Henry Corkhill Collection of glass plates.

|     |                      |                 |    |   |      |                          |                |            |    |    |   |  |                  |
|-----|----------------------|-----------------|----|---|------|--------------------------|----------------|------------|----|----|---|--|------------------|
| 196 | May 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Thomas Triggles | 9  | 6 | E. 6 | George Ward              | T. Tilba       | Latona     | £6 |    |   |  | Left school      |
| 197 | May 21 <sup>st</sup> | Glan Martyn     | 12 | 6 | 11   | May 5 <sup>th</sup> 1906 | John Keir      | Dairy farm |    | £6 | 7 |  | Left school 1906 |
| 198 | Aug 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Roy Wallis      | 5  | 0 | E. 6 | —                        | Charles Wallis |            | 6  | £6 |   |  | 6                |

Glan attended the Tilba Tilba Public School. A surviving school record dated 21 May 1906 shows that Glan Martyn, aged 12 years and 6 months, was enrolled on 5 May 1906 by John Keir, dairy farmer and husband of Minnie. In December that year, however, Glan left the school when the family moved to Waverley in Sydney. The reason for the move is not recorded, but it is likely that John's health had begun to suffer as a result of a lifetime of mining.

John died at their home at 114 Ruthven Street, Waverley, on 10 October 1907, at the age of 59 years. Glan was nearly 14 years old.

Then, only 4 years later, Glan's brother Ralph drowned at the age of 35. He was unmarried and had no children.

A letter of recommendation from the First Assistant of Crown Street Superior Public School in Sydney dated 3 July 1908 confirms that Glan attended the school for about 18 months and was "a lad possessing an excellent moral character."

Glan showed an aptitude for music, and his mother was able to afford ten piano lessons for him. Likely because money became tight following John's death, she couldn't afford any more, so Glan taught himself. To supplement

At age 6 years, just after his first hair cut (see page 26).





Superior Public School,  
Crown Street  
Sydney  
3. 7. 08

This is to Certify that Glanville Martyn  
attended this school for about 18 mos.  
During the whole of this period his conduct  
was most satisfactory, and I can  
confidently recommend him as a lad  
possessing an excellent moral character.

Signed.  
A. J. Thompson  
First President



Mt. Neil Memorial  
Presbyterian Church



To  
MR. Glanville C. Martyn  
Dear Sir,  
On behalf of the MEMBERS and ADHERENTS  
of the MT. NEIL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, we desire  
to express our regret that circumstances have made it  
necessary for you to sever your connection with us, to  
testify to the high esteem in which you have always been held,  
and to acknowledge with thankfulness the efficient and valuable  
services you rendered us as CHURCH ORGANIST for a period of  
over four years.  
We pray that YOU may be spared for many  
years to use your talents in the service of the SANCTUARY  
for the uplifting of MAN and the GLORY of GOD  
Thos. Morgan, President, &c. &c. in absence of Mr.  
Charles King Elder, W. R. Bishop  
Miss Agnes Chis, M. A. Secy. Comm.

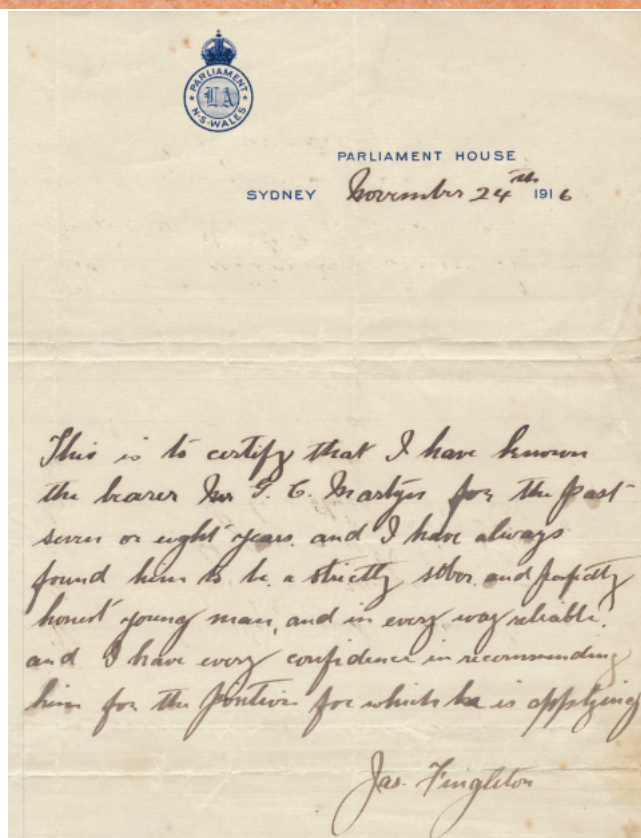




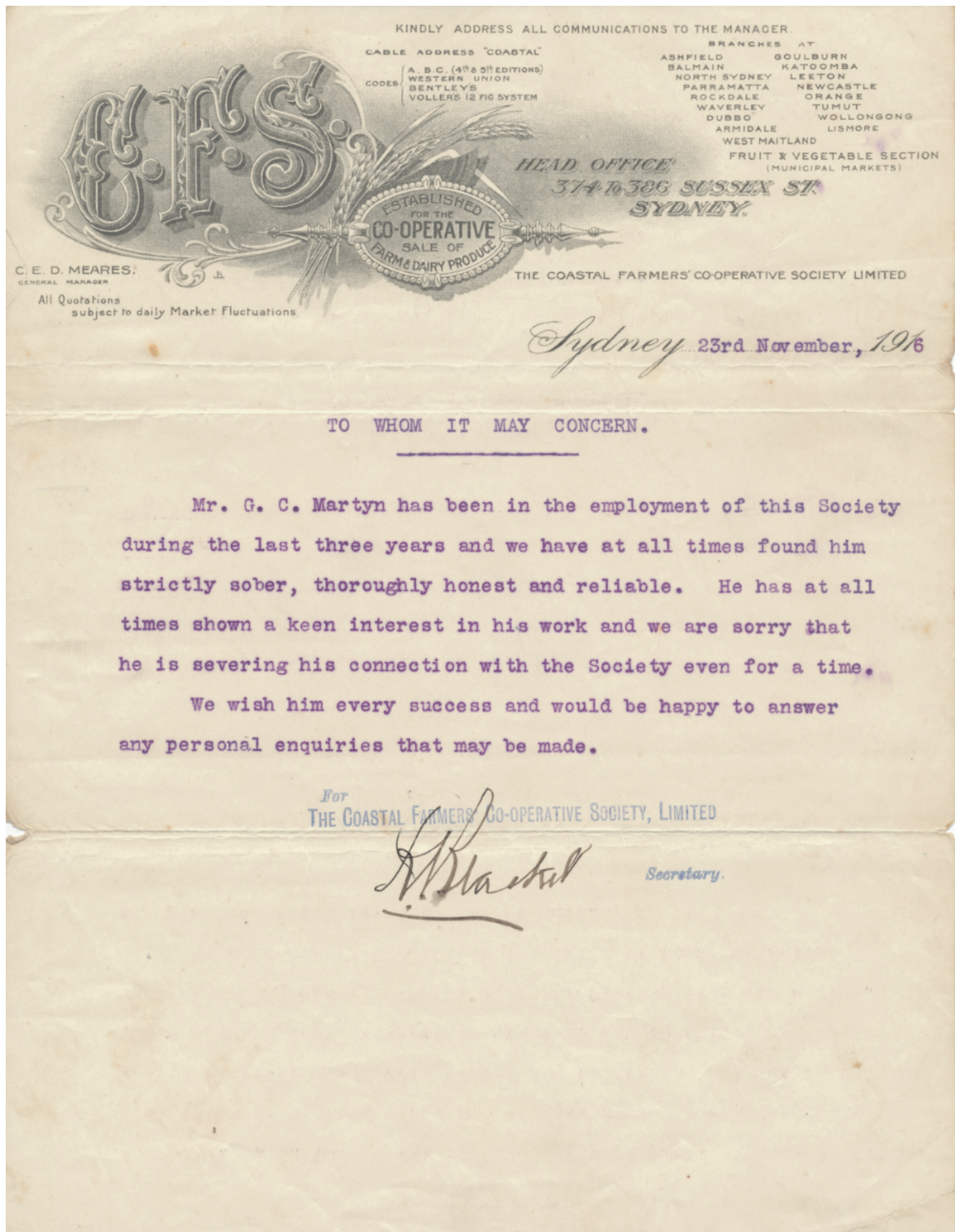
Glan's Steck piano in 2020. The seat was hand made by a friend of Glan's.

the family's income, in around 1909 he took the role of church organist at the McNeil Memorial Presbyterian Church in Waverley, where he served till 1912 at the age of 18 or 19. To recognise his service, the church presented him with an illuminated manuscript, which was framed in a wooden case with his initials on the front. The manuscript is not dated, and church records were destroyed in a fire, so 1912 is a best estimate of the presentation.

In 1914, at the age of 20 or 21, Glan joined the Coastal Farmers' Co-operative Society, which was based at 376–386 Sussex Street, Sydney, as a clerk. As this was a dairy co-op, it is possible that Glan found employment there through his sister Minnie's husband, John Keir. During his lunch breaks, Glan sometimes walked to the Sydney Town Hall, where he practised the grand pipe organ (though not for audiences). He left the co-op in November 1916, having signed up to fight in the War. He also held a second job as a piano demonstrator and







salesman at Palings Music Store on George Street, near Wynyard Station. One of his duties was to meet the ships at the dock when a new shipment of pianos arrived and test them out so as to select the best ones for the shop. One day he found his ideal piano and struck a deal with Palings that he would buy it on lease. It took him a

couple of years to pay it off, but his moral compass required him to have discharged his debt before he joined the Army. The piano, a German-made Steck, remains in the Martyn family today.

## WWI

On 11 November 1916, now aged 23 years, Glan applied to enlist at Victoria Barracks, Paddington. He was accepted on 17 February 1917 at the Sydney Show-ground into the 7th Australian Field Artillery Brigade (7th FAB), 3rd Division, 1st Australian Imperial Force (AIF). His training began 3 days later at Liverpool, and lasted 8 months. On 5 November 1917, he sailed from Sydney on HMT A15 *Port Sydney*. The ship stopped en route at Suez, Alexandria and Taranto (Italy) before arriving in Southampton on 5 January 1918. Training started the next day at Heytesbury, Salisbury Plains. While at Heytesbury, he contracted synovitis and was treated at the Sutton Veny military hospital. Three months later, on

22 April 1918, he sailed from Southampton to Le Havre, France, as a Gunner in the 27th Battery. On arrival, he went to Rouelles, a large park (ca 125 ha) on the outskirts of Le Havre, which was the site of a number of army transit camps.

From 4 May 1918 he was on active service as a field artilleryman until the Armistice, on 11 November 1918.

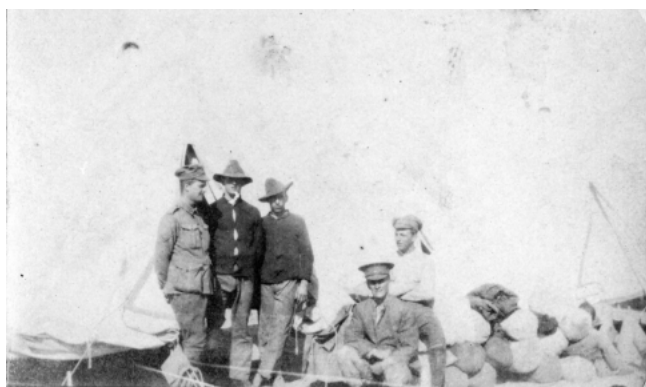
After the Armistice, the 7th FAB was moved to Hautmont, a manufacturing town in Belgium. Because of the huge number of Commonwealth soldiers in France and Belgium, and with very limited available shipping for repatriation, the 7th FAB was not moved to the UK until 6 May 1919. They departed Devonport on 2 July, arriving in Sydney on 18 August 1919.

### Service summary

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Service number       | 37434  |
| Rank                 | Gunner   |
| Unit                 | 3rd Division, 7th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, 27th Battery |
| Enlistment date      | 17 February 1917   |
| Roll title           | FAB 27 to 35 Reinforcements (November 1917 – June 1918)            |
| Conflict/operation   | First World War, 1914–1918   |
| Date of embarkation  | 5 November 1917  |
| Place of embarkation | Sydney   |
| Ship embarked on     | HMAT <i>Port Sydney</i> A15  |
| Fate                 | Returned to Australia 1 July 1919                                  |



Above: Port Tewfik, Suez, Egypt, 12 December 1917. Right: A boxing match on the deck of the *Port Sydney*, December 1917. Below: Glan (left) at a camp in Egypt, 16 December 1917.





## Service details

### 37434 Gunner G. C. Martyn, 27th Battery, 7th FAB, 3rd Division, 1st AIF

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 11 November 1916  | Application to enlist at Victoria Barracks, NSW<br>Certified medically fit at Victoria Barracks   |
| 17 February 1917  | Attestation Paper completed<br>Unit "REINF. F. A." [reinforcement field artillery?]<br>Oath of allegiance sworn at Sydney Showground Camp<br>Assigned 1st FAB 29th Reinforcements |
| 20 February 1917  | "Taken on strength", Liverpool, NSW<br>Appointed as Recruit Private Gunner<br>Nothing is known about the training received here   |
| 4 June 1917       | 30th Regiment FA NSW at B???  |
| 5 November 1917   | Sailed ex Sydney on HMT A15 <i>Port Sydney</i>  |
| 12 December 1917  | Disembarked Suez [it is not known why he was disembarked at Suez only to re-embark at Alexandria 6 days later]  |
| 18 December 1917  | Embarked HMTB 8012 <i>Alexandria</i> [TB = Torpedo Boat]  |
| 22 December 1917  | Disembarked Taranto, Italy [it is not known why the ship called at Taranto, nor for how long]   |
| 5 January 1918    | Disembarked Southampton, UK   |
| 6 January 1918    | "Marched in" to RBAA [Reserve Brigade Australian Army], Heytesbury, Salisbury Plains  |
| 20 January 1918   | Admitted to military hospital, Sutton Veny, with synovitis  |
| 28 February 1918  | Discharged from hospital and rejoined unit at Heytesbury  |
| 20 April 1918     | Left Heytesbury for Southampton   |
| 22 April 1918     | Southampton to Le Havre, France   |
| 23 April 1918     | "Marched in" to AGBD [Australian General Base Depot], Rouelles [outskirts of Le Havre]  |
| 26 April 1918     | "Marched out" of Rouelles en route for Bresle   |
| 2 May 1918        | "Taken on strength", 7th FAB ex General Artillery Reinforcements, most likely at Vaux sur Somme   |
| 9–13 May 1918     | Bresle  |
| 16–31 May 1918    | Cocquerel near Abbéville [intensive training]   |
| 1 June 1918       | Glisy, Villers-Bretonneux sector  |
| 9 June 1918       | Aubigny and Blangy-Tronville  |
| 4 July 1918       | St Quentin – Amiens Road  |
| 16 July 1918      | Fouilly   |
| 8 August 1918     | Hamel, Morcourt, Chipilly Ridge   |
| 9 August 1918     | Vaire-Sous-Corbie   |
| 12 August 1918    | Méharicourt   |
| 21 August 1918    | Between Bray–Corbie Road and Malard Wood  |
| 22 August 1918    | Bray  |
| 24 August 1918    | Étinehem  |
| 27 August 1918    | Suzanne   |
| 29 August 1918    | Via River Somme to Curlu  |
| 30 August 1918    | Hem, Cléry, Mont St Quentin   |
| 4 September 1918  | West of Suzanne   |
| 6 September 1918  | Péronne   |
| 8 September 1918  | Courselles  |
| 17 September 1918 | Hervilly  |
| 18 September 1918 | Hesbécourt  |
| 24 September 1918 | Tincourt  |



|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 3 October 1918    | Bony and Bellicourt   |
| 6 October 1918    | Wiancourt   |
| 8 October 1918    | Prémont, Montbrehain, Brancourt   |
| 14 October 1918   | Escafort  |
| 19 October 1918   | L'Arbre de Guise  |
| 6 November 1918   | Montbrehain   |
| 11 November 1918  | Sambre et Oise Canal sector [Armistice]   |
| *12 December 1918 | Montbrehain via Bohain, Vaux, Andigny, Molain, Mazingheim, Catillon, Groise, Prèches, Avesnes, St Hilaire to Hautmont [a manufacturing town on the River Sambre, south of Maubeuge] |
| 16 December 1918  | "Still with unit"   |
| 28 December 1918  | "Attached for duty to 3rd AHQ"  |
| 27 January 1919   | Transferred to 3rd DAHQ from 7th FAB France   |
| 1 February 1919   | "Taken on strength" in 3rd DAHQ from 7th FAB  |
| 23 February 1919  | On leave from France to UK<br>[Known to have visited Paris, London and Wales]   |
| 9 March 1919      | Returned to France  |
| 22 March 1919     | Rejoined 7th FAB at Lobbes/Charleroi, Belgium   |
| 22 March 1919     | Transferred to 7th FAB, detached to 2nd DAHQ  |
| 30 April 1919     | Depart Charleroi/Lobbes for Le Havre [16 men to a horse box truck]  |
| 3 May 1919        | Rejoined Brigade from 2nd DAHQ  |
| 6 May 1919        | Le Havre to Southampton   |
| 7 May 1919        | Disembarked Southampton; "marched in" to Sutton Veny<br>[Based in the Australian hospital, most likely as part of an entertainment party]   |
| 1 July 1919       | Ex Sutton Veny for Devonport<br>Boarded HS [Hospital Ship?] <i>Karmala</i>  |
| 2 July 1919       | Depart Devonport  |
| 29 July 1919      | NOK advised returning to Australia  |
| 18 August 1919    | Arrive Sydney   |
| 10 September 1919 | Discharged Sydney   |

Sources: Casualty Form Active Service, Army form B.213, Army form A.36.

\*"The residents extended a hearty welcome to the Aussie troops, and the latter were soon 'well dug-in', and from then on were treated like 'one of the family'. Shortly after arrival the 3rd Div. Artillery Concert Party, 'The Courtiers Costume Comedy Co.', which had been working hard at rehearsals etc. whilst the Brigade was at Montbrehain, gave their first performance. The company was formed from Members of the Div. Art. & proved a very popular success."

Glan with his mother, Dorothy, in Sydney in 1917.



The Port Sydney.





"Passing through a captured section of The Hindenburg Defence System, 7th Brigade Field Artillery Riqueval France 2 October 18".

### Troop withdrawal in Belgium

On their withdrawal through Belgium and France, the 7th FAB passed through Riqueval, a village in the Somme Valley approximately 11 km north-north-east of the major city of St Quentin. Research into the movements of the 7th FAB by Charles Bean shows that this unit passed through the village of Bellicourt on 3 October 1918. Bellicourt is 2 km from Riqueval. The photo above is likely to have been taken by Frank Hurley. One of the figures in the photograph could well be Glan.



Glan (on left) in France in 1918.



Glan (right) with his best mate Alf Dakin, February 1919.





## Souvenirs of Brussels, Paris and London



Above: Glan (bottom right) and his mate Alf Dakin (bottom left) with their platoon in London in 1918.

Army Form W. 3105.

H.Q. 2nd AUSTRALIAN DIV. ANTILLERY Pass.

No. 37434 (Rank) ... (Name) ... *Glanville Crawford Martyn* ...

has permission to be absent from his quarters, from 20-4-19 to 23-4-19 for the purpose of proceeding to Brussels (Station) ... (Date) ... 19/4/19.

Commanding 2nd AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY

(2942.) Wt. W5140/P1687. 8,000,000. 9/18. P.P.Ltd.

Hautmont  
France 19/2/19

Dear Tom & Ida,

I feel that I must try & write a few lines although they won't be many, as it is pretty late, but am going on leave tomorrow & have been busy squaring up old mail & have sorted out a number of letters which I haven't yet acknowledged. They are, one from Ida sent with Bothes on 3/6/18 yours & Ida's 19/6/18 & yours 29/7/18. Am always glad to get letters from both of you, whether short or long, although I must admit that I haven't deserved, but am trying to make an improvement in that direction. While I think of it remember me to Mark & Jack & all the families. I saw the notice of Gordon B's marriage, flash cook, by the reading of the notice one would

3

after that. As to Tom I didn't "Billy" but have heard about him. Aussie has a good deal more to thank him for than a lot of people think. Well now old chaps, Bothes will give what little news I have to give, so will bid youse two adieu for the time being.

Keep your peckers bright & smiling as I'll be looking for all the sunshine I can get, when I get away from this snow bound country.

Remember me to all those interested, & accept my love to you both.

I am yours affectionate  
brother  
Glan



## The Courtiers

Following the Armistice, there weren't enough ships to bring the troops home quickly, and his battalion stayed for half of 1919. While in Hautmont, a group of enthusiasts, Glan included, put together a concert party, 'The Courtiers', which then moved around the district entertaining other units awaiting repatriation. The Courtiers kept the waiting troops in France and later in England entertained. It is not known which towns or army units he visited.

There is a photo of the Courtiers in full costume on page 116 of Volume 3 of *The 7th FAB Yandoo*.<sup>\*</sup> Glan can be seen clearly in this photo.

<sup>\*</sup>In August 1916, a few enterprising amateur journalists in the unit decided to write and publish periodic newsletters recounting 7th FAB events of significance. The title of the newsletter was *Yandoo*, which is a word in an Aboriginal language for messenger. After the war, these papers were collated and reproduced in a book titled *The 7th FAB Yandoo*, which tells the many stories of the 7th FAB men, together with perhaps 300 photographs, the Nominal Rolls, the Casualty Lists, the Roll of Honour, the List of Decorations and the List of Diggers Commissioned in the Field.

## Visiting relatives in Wales

While in the UK, Glan travelled to Wales, where he met his uncle George Martyn and his cousins Don, Blanche, Mary and Cliff at Llanwanno Hill on 6 March 1919.



Above: The Courtiers in costume in 1919. Glan is at the far right.



Right: Glan with his uncle George Martyn in Wales in 1919.

Below: Glan's medals. From left, 1914 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal.



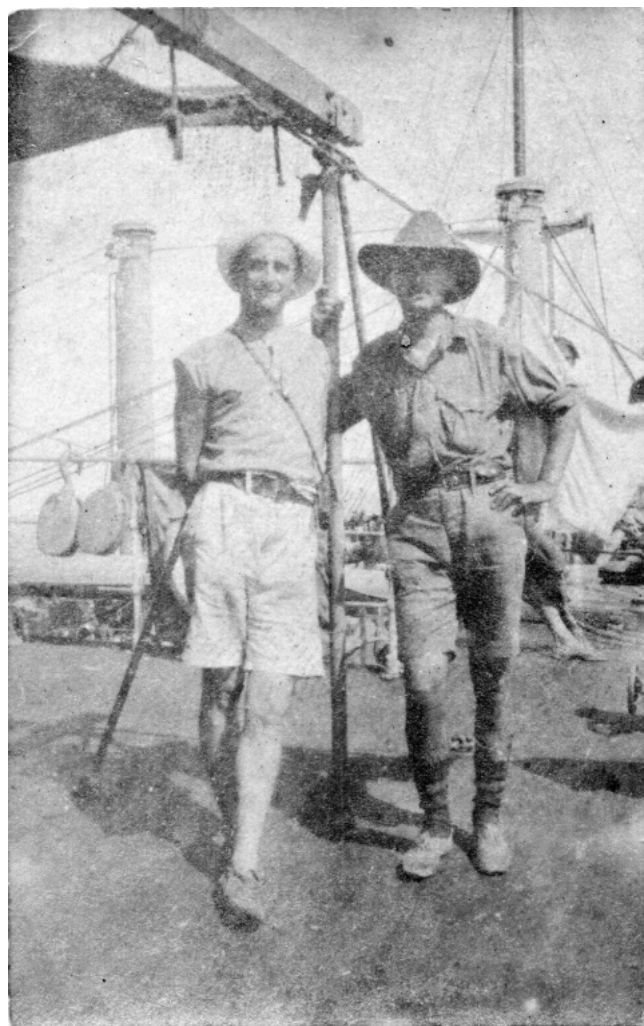
Below: Glan (at rear) with cousins Don, Blanche, Mary and Cliff at Llanwanno Hill on 6 March 1919.



## WWI anecdotes

Glan's daughter, Shirley, recorded two anecdotes that she remembers Glan telling her. At one stage rations were running low because the supply lines were stretched, and all they had to eat for a few days were tins of strawberry jam. No hard tack, no biscuits, just strawberry jam. Another incident related to the pressure they were under as the advancing armies slowly pushed the Germans back. Each gun crew of five would work, eat and sleep together. On one occasion, fighting was particularly intense for some days and nights, and the men came close to exhaustion. The 7th FAB was given respite one night, and all simply collapsed on the ground and fell into a deep sleep. On waking the next morning, three of the crew, Glan included, found the other two dead. During the night their area had been shelled, but the three survivors had not heard a sound.

Below: On board the *SS Karmala* returning to Australia in July–August 1919. Glan is in the farthest back row, extreme right.



Above: Glan (left) aboard the *SS Karmala*, 10 September 1919.

Below: The *SS Karmala*.

A. I. F. Form 541

### Demobilisation Movement Card

Unit 27<sup>th</sup> Battery. (Concert Party)  
Surname (in block letters) MARTYN  
Other Names in full Glanville Crawford  
Reg. No. 37434 Rank Runner  
Where to report in U.K. \_\_\_\_\_  
Proceeding to U.K. for reasons C set out below.

Reference Letters.

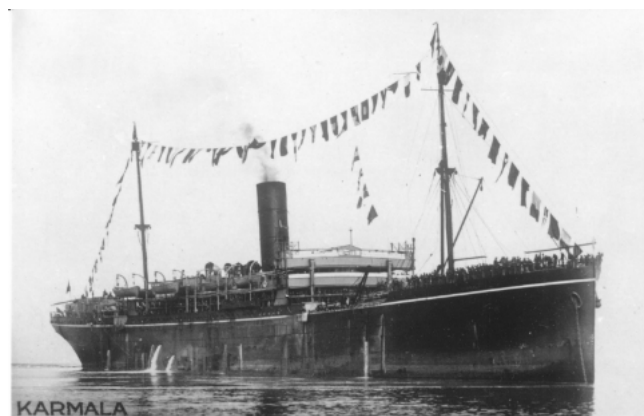
- (A) Early Repatriation.
- (B) Early Repatriation with wife.
- (C) Ordinary Repatriation.
- (D) Extended leave \_\_\_\_\_ months.
- (E) Discharge elsewhere than in Australia.
- (F) Educational or Industrial Employment.
- (G) Any other purpose not mentioned above

The reference letter designating the reasons will be marked in the square above.

Date 30/4/19 Signature Glanville Crawford  
O.C. Unit Concert Party

EMBARKATION QUOTA No. 44. (To be filled in by Unit and ONLY when the individual is a member of the Quota).

DRAFT No. \_\_\_\_\_ (To be filled in at Base, HAVRE)



Left: Glan's demobilisation card.





Glan Martyn with his sisters and brothers, circa 1920.  
Back left, Arthur; back centre, Tom; back right: Glan;  
front left, Dorothy; front 2nd left, Minnie; front 3rd left, Blanche; front right, May.



Above and below: Glan in the garden, perhaps in Waverley, in 1923.



Uncle George Martyn, bandmaster, circa 1910.





## Marriage to Anne Woods

Returning home, Glan found work as a piano accompanist in the silent movies. We don't know his movements, but we can surmise that he took a job in Fairfield.

John James Woods was an Irish immigrant who ran a cartage business in Fairfield. He married another Irish immigrant, Elizabeth Maxwell, and they eventually had nine children—six girls and then three boys, all of whom survived to adulthood. As well as the cartage business (later called J. J. Woods & Sons), John and Lizzie ran a cinema on The Crescent in Fairfield, at which their children had jobs in ticketing and selling snacks. Their second eldest child was Anne Jane Walker Woods, born on 7 January 1904. It is likely that Glan met Anne at the cinema through his work as a silent movie accompanist. As well as helping out at the cinema, Anne worked as a seamstress. She would have been aged in her early 20s.

Anne Woods picking apples in 1920.



Program of the Monarch Empire Pictures, Dubbo, "Grand Opening Night", 4 July 1929, price 3d.

# Gala Premiere Entertainment at the MONARCH EMPIRE THEATRE

Preceded by  
AN ATMOSPHERIC PROLOGUE.  
Written and produced by  
**MRS. KEP. WILKINS.**

|           |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Fabien    | Mr. H. Frost                       |
| Andre     | Mr. H. Whitney                     |
| Courtier  | Mr. G. Davies                      |
| Manon     | Miss Jeanie Cooper                 |
| An Apache | Mr. T. Odley                       |
| The Girl  | Miss Alice Mitchell                |
| Equerries | Monroe, H. Whitney and F. H. Utley |

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court,  
Misses O. Mitchell, L. Howie, S. Mitchell, S. Cooper, L. Munday, I. Emery, I. Johnson and Mrs. A. Gillard.

Scene I.: Outside the Courtyard.  
Song: "To a Miniature" ..... Mrs. Paul Alam  
Scene II.: The Ballroom.  
Song: "Drink, Drink" ..... Mr. H. Frost  
Scene III.: The Underworld.  
Song: "Grandma's 'Ave Maria'" ..... Mrs. Paul Alam  
Scene IV.: The Church.

**THE CAST OF CHARACTERS IN "HIS LADY."**

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| CHEVALIER FABIEN DES GRIEUX   | JOHN BARRYMORE   |
| MANON LESCAUT                 | DOLORES COSTELLO |
| Andre Lescaut                 | Warner Oland     |
| Compte Guillot de Morfontaine | Sam De Grasse    |
| Jean Tiberge                  | Holmes Herbert   |
| Louis XV., King of France     | Stuart Holmes    |
| Le Duc De Richelieu           | Berttram Grubb   |
| Captain of Convict Boat       | Tom Santschi     |
| Marie                         | Marcelle Corday  |
| A Lay Brother                 | Charles Clary    |

Presenting—  
**John Barrymore**  
in  
**"HIS LADY"**  
**Dolores Costello**  
An Exceptional Master Picture.  
Directed by Alan Crossland.

STAN MAC





Glan and Anne on their wedding day, 3 August 1927, preparing to drive to Dubbo in their Model T Ford.

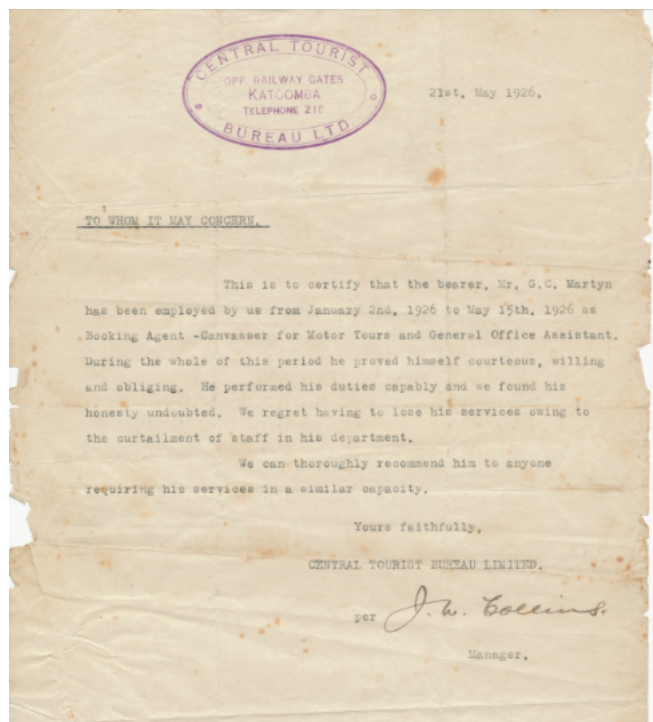
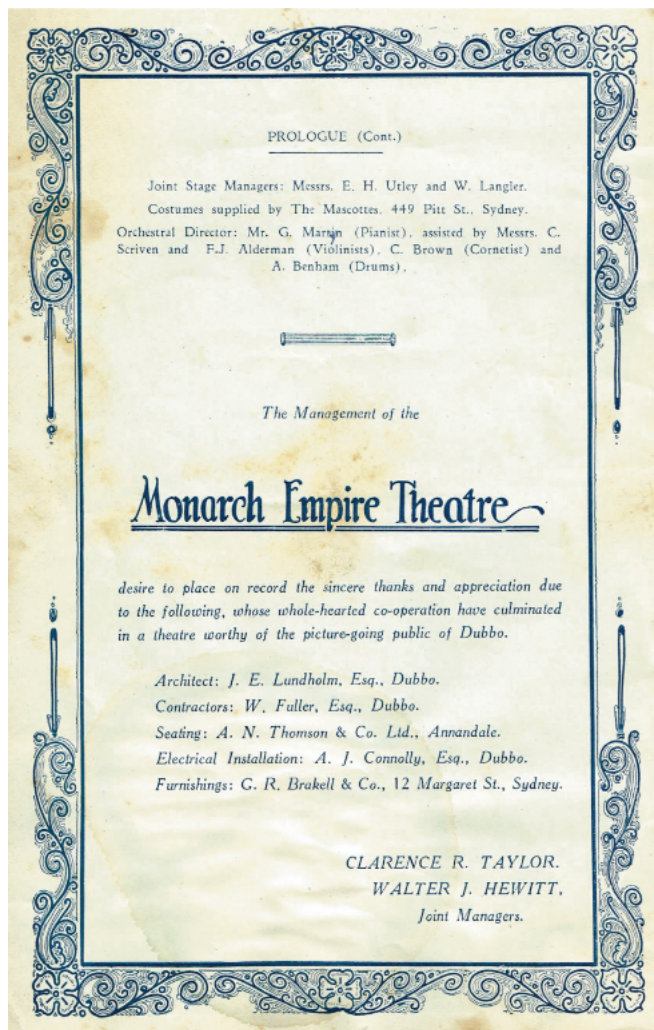
Work must have been scarce, as Glan left Sydney for Katoomba in 1926 to work for the Central Tourist Bureau Limited as a booking clerk. He stayed only 4 months until he and other staff were retrenched. He then moved to Dubbo to work as the accompanist at the Monarch Empire Theatre.

His mother died at home (94 Cumberland Road, Auburn) on 10 October 1926.

Glan and Anne married on 3 August 1927 at St Barnabas' Church of England, Fairfield, and set up home at 31 Nancarrow Street, Dubbo. Their first child, Nancy Shirley, was born there on 29 November 1928. Shirley



Glan and Anne on their wedding day, 3 August 1927, at St Barnabas' Church of England, Fairfield.





No. 21.

8c 4449

NEW SOUTH



WALES.

N<sup>o</sup>. 101.EN<sup>o</sup>. C 231164

IN MINISTER'S REGISTER.

## SCHEDULE.

REGISTRAR'S No. ....

MARRIAGE ACT, No. 15, 1899.

## CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE.

Insert Christian and Surname in full of Minister or Registrar.

I, Henry John Gilet Willson being

Insert Designation.

A Clerk in Holy Orders.

Place.

do hereby Certify that I have this day at S. Barnabas' Church of England Fairfield New South Wales duly celebrated Marriage between

Insert Christian and Surname of Bridegroom at full length.

Glanville Crawford Martyn

Insert Designation, Residence, and Condition of Bridegroom.

Pianist - Barton House, Bubba R. S. W. Bachelor

Insert Christian and Surname of Bride at full length.

and Anne Jane Walker Woods

Insert Designation, Residence, and Condition of Bride.

Dressmaker, York Street, Fairfield R. S. W. spinster

N.B.—"Condition." Bachelor—Spinster, Widower—Widow, Divorced, or Divorced (Petitioner), as the case may be.

after declaration duly made before me as by law required.

DATED this Third day of August 1927.H. Gilet Willson

{ Signature of Minister or Registrar.

Glanville C. Martyn

(Bridegroom.)

Signatures of Parties to Marriage.

A Woods

(Bride.)

Signatures of Witnesses.

J. J. WoodsJ. H. Osborne

Vide Sections 5, 23, and 24, Marriage Act, No. 15, 1899.

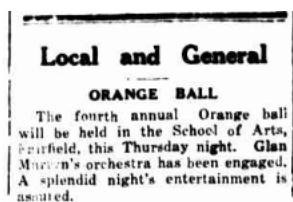
**"The declaration on the back hereof must be duly made and signed, otherwise the parties and the officiating Minister or Registrar are liable to the punishment by law provided in that behalf."**





Glan Martyn's orchestra was hugely popular among the dance scene in Sydney, especially among devotees of "Old-Time Dance" and "Barn Dances", as here at Ryde Town Hall in the mid 1930s. Glan is seated at the back right-hand side at the piano. The original of this photo has disappeared.

used to sleep beneath the piano while Glan played. Not long after, Glan's career ended with the arrival of the talkies. He worked briefly as a bus driver in the district. But within a year, with the onset of the Great Depression, they had moved back to Sydney, where Anne's parents (known as Nana and Pop) set them up running a little grocery shop at 24 Frederick Street, Fairfield. Shirley was later joined by John Glanville in 1931 and Robert Crawford (Bob) in 1937.



*The Biz*, Fairfield, 29 July 1932.

Glan used to play the piano most evenings—at dances, parties, weddings and so on. He formed a dance orchestra, which was hugely popular in the district. One of his musician friends was known to the children as Uncle Mick. Uncle Mick had what the children referred to as an "Uncle Mick hairdo", which consisted of three strands of hair drawn over a bald scalp with a rake. On coming home with his performance fee, Glan would hand the money to Anne, who gave him back his tobacco money and kept the rest for household expenses. Unfortunately, Glan—like many other servicemen—had taken up smoking during World War I, when the Army routinely handed out tobacco as a form of pay-

ment. The depressive effects of nicotine probably helped the servicemen cope with the traumas of combat. Glan was unable to give up his addiction until he suffered a heart attack in December 1956, whereon he stopped. Unfortunately, the smoking had already done its damage and eventually killed him.

World War II started in 1939. Glan's son Bob later wrote:

"World War 2 had started and things got pretty grim. Dad dug a trench in the shed [behind the Fairfield shop] that was in the backyard [in case] we were



The Martyn family in the Model T Ford, 1931. Back left, Nana Woods; leaning out, Glan; seated on running board, Anne holding baby John; looking down, Shirley.

bombed. He chose to dig the trench inside to stop it filling with water when it rained. Being a veteran of WW1 he doubtless had plenty of practice."

After 10 years of running the shop, around 1940 Glan and Anne sold it and moved to Ashfield. Bob wrote:

"Dad's Fiat car broke a tooth off the crown wheel, and as we were then at war with Italy, parts were unavailable, so I am guessing that this event triggered the decision to move to Ashfield. This meant a new car and a new job for Dad."

Glan joined the Producers' Distributing Society (a rural produce co-op), where he worked for 8 years.

The family later moved to 83 Berwick Street, Guildford, a few kilometres away. Glan then worked for 10 years at Winns Department Store in Auburn.

One day Glan had a car accident as he was driving home in Guildford from work. Shirley wrote:

"Coming home from the train, the temperature was cool, getting dark, and as I turned the corner I saw my Dad's car parked askew in the gutter instead of it being in the garage. A tragedy had occurred; the car should have been in the garage.

"I went into the house to see Mum crying and Dad in shock—a lad aged 16 ran into the car on his motor-bike. As Dad was turning the corner, the bike went under the car, and the lad was thrown onto the footpath. The police came; so did the neighbours. The boy died. Dad had to go to court, but he was not charged."



sary on 3 August 1952, with a party at home in Guildford.

Summer camping at Narrabeen was a family tradition for many years. Glan made a tent from scraps; he built a camp shower from a kerosene tin to allow hot showers; Anne cooked on a camp stove; and Glan and Shirley both caught the bus and ferry into the city for work. The woman in this photo is not identified.



The Martyn family caught in a street photo in Sydney, October 1941. L to R: Anne, Shirley, Glan, John; foreground, Bobby.







Above: Glan worked at Winns department store in Auburn, shown here in 1956.

At Shirley's wedding to George Woodfull Stevens on 26 June 1954. From L to R: John, Glan, Shirley, Anne and Bob.





## Recording

On 18 July 1957, one of Anne and Glan's neighbours, Mrs Leslie Tobin, engaged a recording engineer (David Cummings of Wonder Records, a one-man operation based at his home at 6 Yarrara Rd, Pymble) to record Glan at the piano in Guildford. Despite having played as a church organist, in the silent movies, at dances and for friends and family, Glan had never made a recording. The resulting cutting (on acetate 33  $\frac{1}{3}$  rpm discs), with only a dozen or so copies, was the only recording he ever made. The timing was fortuitous: only 5 months later, Glan had a stroke and died on 27 December. This was the third death in the family in quick succession, as Pop and Nana Woods also died that year. In 1987, the recording was converted to CD and lodged with the ABC and the National Film and Sound Archive.



Lock of Glan's hair kept from his first hair cut at the age of 6 years, in 1899.





Bob, Anne and John at 83 Berwick Street, Guildford, 13 April 1952. Photo by Shirley.



## Obituary

### Mr Glan Martyn

A gentleman who had been prominent in work in Fairfield over the past forty years, Mr. Glan Martyn, passed away at Fairfield Hospital on December 27 [1957].

Although he had experienced indifferent health for some time, Mr. Martyn's end was sudden. He was found collapsed at his home, 83 Berwick St. Guildford, and taken to Fairfield Hospital, where he died ten days later.

Mr. Glan Martyn, who was christened Glanville Crawford, had lived all his life in the Merrylands, Guildford and Fairfield districts. His widow, Mrs. Anne Martyn, was a member of the well known pioneering family of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Woods, of Fairfield.

About 30 years ago Glan conducted a mixed business in Frederick Street, Fairfield, for about ten years. Afterwards he worked for the Producers' Distributing Society and then spent eight years with Winns of Auburn.

Mr. Glan Martyn was widely known for his musical talents. His whole life was wrapped around music, and to this end he spent most of his leisure hours. For years Glan Martyn's orchestra was a byword in the dance halls and ballrooms of these parts, and had few equals.

The deceased was a most accomplished pianist and organist, and his services were much sought after. For many years he was church organist at St. Barnabas' Church of England, Fairfield, and it was from this church that his last earthly remains were conveyed to Rookwood Crematorium.

The Rector of Cabramatta Memorial Church of England, Rev. H. H. Davison, conducted the service at the church, in the absence of the Rector of St. Barnabas', Rev. H. Henningham, who was ill in Fairfield Hospital.

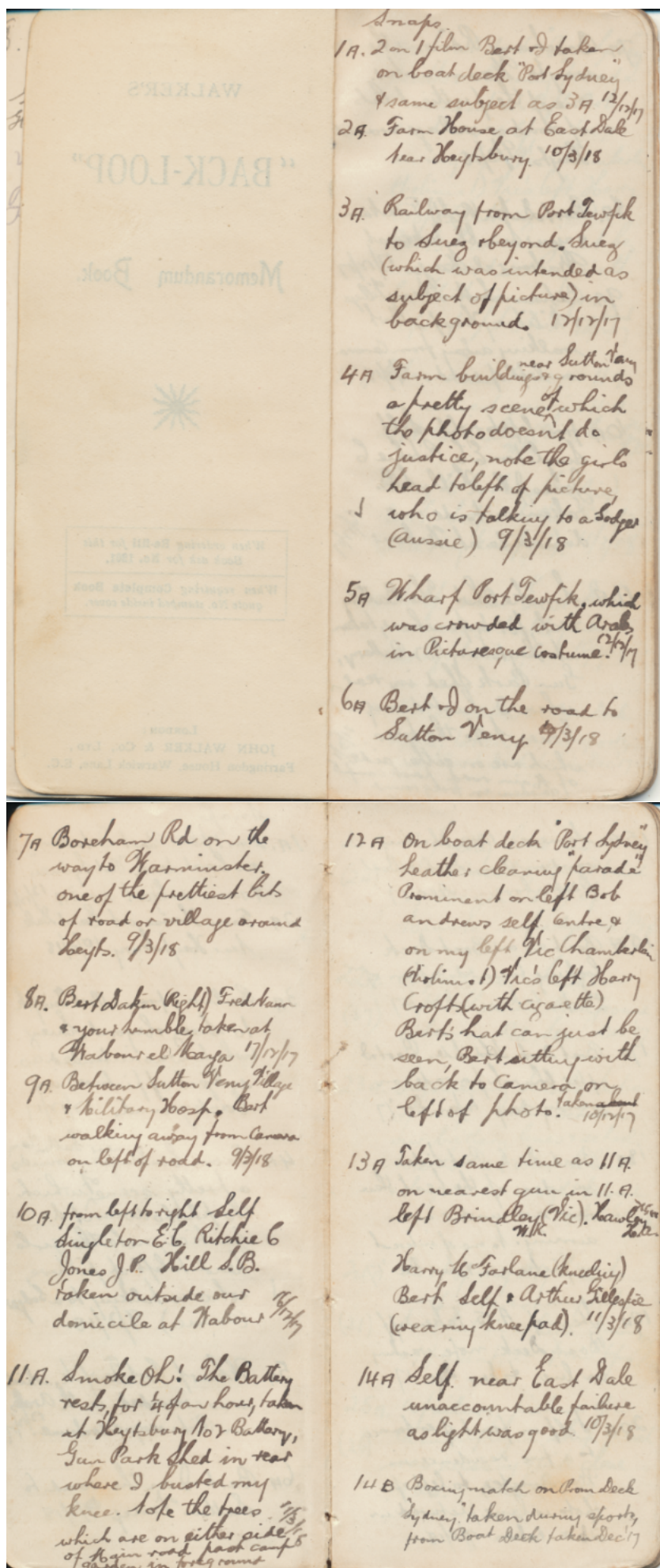
The funeral service, which was held on Saturday morning, December 28, was largely attended, and many beautiful wreaths showed the high respect in which the late gentleman was held.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the bereaved widow and family, namely, Shirley (Mrs. Stevens, Huskisson), John (Canley Vale) and Robert.

A sister of the deceased, Dorothy, lives at Kingsford, and another sister, Blanche, at Newport.

## Appendix

Record of photos taken by Glan  
in 1917 and 1918





15A. Same as 14B showing  
crowd on Boat Deck & Boat  
Deck above Dec '17

16A. Port of Boat Deck  
looking towards stern of  
ship. taken Dec '17

17A. Boat Deck 4th Lte. Port of  
after Church parade on  
windy day. taken Dec '17

18A. Boat Deck Port side.  
an idea of the heat, then  
men are under an  
awning. No one of interest  
in picture. taken Dec '17

19A. Stern of A.15 taken off  
Boat Deck. note washing  
on line. taken Dec '17

20A. Self in front of entrance  
to a fine residence in  
Warrminster, to left of  
photo is lane pictured in  
26A. taken 9/3/18

21A. A pretty lane in  
(24) Warrminster, tower (which  
is 500 years old) of  
Warrminster in background 7/3/18

22A. A failure. Smoke on  
(27) left. Shore in background  
taken in Red Sea. Dec '17

23A. Signalling School's section  
of Camp. taken between  
our battery lines & school.  
Note the thick wood behind.  
& haystacks on right background  
taken 6/3/18.

24A. Part of my Bty lines. No  
one of interest in photo.  
(21) No 13 hut in which I am  
at present, 2nd from top. 9/3/18

25A. A failure, picture of a  
(26) camouflaged ship which  
was passing quite close  
to us. taken Dec '17

26A. Bert & I sitting over  
river near 1st Battery  
taken 17/3/18

27A. A scene on the road  
to Warrminster self in  
background in foreground 23/3/18

28A. Bert (right) Tobin R.C. (left)  
Self (left) near river walk  
17/3/18

29A. Self with Christ Church  
Hem. in background 23/3/18

30A. Bert & I on road from  
Codford leaving against  
gate. 16/3/18

31A. Self on heap of stones  
on road to Codford 16/3/18

32A. Bert on milestone,  
road to Codford. 16/3/18

33A. Self wearing my best  
friend (Sam. mark). in  
front of hut. 16/3/18

34A. Colin King & Bert near  
Y.M.C.A. 19.4.18

35A. Colin Bert & Self in front  
of gun pit 19.4.18

36A. Colin near Y.M.C.A. 21/4/18

37A. O'Reilly & Bert  
Same as 35A. near Y.M.C.A.

38A. Same as 36A

39A. Same as 37A

40A. Colin Bert & Self  
near Y.M.C.A. 21/4/18

41A. Self " "

Members of the 7th Brigade of Australian Field Artillery passing through the wire entanglements of a captured section of the Hindenburg Line. 2 October 1918. E03505



The 7th Brigade of Australian Field Artillery, passing through the wrecked village of Riqueval, on their way to positions from which they could effectually support the troops engaged in breaking of the Hindenburg Canal and Nauroy lines, which had commenced on 29 September, both these lines were entirely in our hands by 3 October. 2 October 1918. E03417





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AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

## AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

## Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 37434 Name MARTYN, Glanville Crawford  
 Unit REINE, P. A.  
 Joined on 17 FEB 1917

## Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? Glanville Crawford Martyn
2. In the Parish of Tilba Tilba in or near the Town of Tilba Tilba in the County of Tilba Tilba
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown) Natural Born British subject
4. What is your age? 23 1/2 years
5. What is your trade or calling? black
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? no
7. Are you married? no
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) Mother, Mrs Dorothy Martyn, Military Rd Guildford Rd Guildford
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? no
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy? no
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge. no
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? no
14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with Pay would reach eight shillings per day? yes
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small-pox and enteric fever? yes

I, Glanville Crawford Martyn do solemnly declare that the above answers made to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children three-fifths

Date

17 FEB 1917

Glanville C. Martyn

Signature of person enlisted.

\* This clause to be amended when necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.



# DECLARATION

BEFORE DISTRICT REGISTRAR OR MINISTER.

Bridegroom's name, designation or employment, residence condition.

Majority attained or written consent (if not a widow), vide Sections 9 and 10, Marriage Act, No. 15, 1899.

Bride's name, designation or employment, residence, condition.

Father's name, residence, and designation.

I, Glanville Crawford Martyn of Boston House, Dublin W.S.W. Bachelor being duly sworn, do on my oath declare ~~that I have~~ that I do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm—that I have attained the age of twenty-one years ~~and have duly obtained the written consent required by the Marriage Act No. 15, 1899~~ and I believe there is no impediment or lawful objection by reason of any kindred relationship, or alliance, or any former marriage, or the want of consent of parents or guardians, or any other lawful cause, to my being married to Anne Jane Walker Woods ~~of York Street, Fairfield, N.S.W.~~ daughter of John James Woods ~~of York Street, Fairfield, N.S.W.~~ spinster ~~Carrier~~ Carrier and I hereby further declare that I have full knowledge that if I swear or affirm falsely I shall be guilty of perjury, and be liable to be punished accordingly.

(Signature of Bridegroom) Glanville Crawford Martyn

Bride's name and condition.

Oath or Declaration by Affirmation.

Majority attained or written consent (if not a widow), vide Sections 9 and 10, Marriage Act, No. 15, 1899.

Bridegroom's name.

Rule out all superfluous clauses, and initial in margin.

AND I, the said Anne Jane Walker Woods ~~spinster~~ spinster being duly sworn, do on my oath declare—~~that I do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm—that I have attained the age of twenty-one years~~ that I have attained the age of twenty-one years ~~and I believe there is no impediment or lawful objection, by reason of any kindred relationship, or alliance, or any former marriage, or the want of consent of parents or guardians, or any other lawful cause, to my being married to the said~~ and I believe there is no impediment or lawful objection, by reason of any kindred relationship, or alliance, or any former marriage, or the want of consent of parents or guardians, or any other lawful cause, to my being married to the said Glanville Crawford Martyn ~~of York Street, Fairfield, N.S.W.~~ of York Street, Fairfield, N.S.W. and I hereby further declare that I have full knowledge that if I swear or affirm falsely I shall be guilty of perjury, and be liable to be punished accordingly.

(Signature of Bride) A. Woods

DECLARED and sworn ~~by~~ and affirmed by both parties named, this Third day of August, 1927. Before me,

N.B.—ATTACH WRITTEN CONSENT TO CERTIFICATE FOR REGISTRAR

Signature and Designation of Minister or Registrar. Willet Wilson Clerk in Holy Orders

THE CONSENT OF\*

of the Bridegroom, was given in writing to the marriage.

THE CONSENT OF\*

of the Bride, was given in writing to the Marriage.

\*Father, Guardian by appointment, Mother, Guardian of Minors, vide Sections 9, 10, and 11, Marriage Act, No. 15, 1899.

| Birthplace. |                    | Town or County. | Country.  | Age last Birthday.      | †Father's Christian Name and Surname. | Father's Rank or Profession. | †Mother's Christian Name and Maiden Surname. |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| BRIDE-GROOM | <u>Tilba Tilba</u> | <u>N.S.W.</u>   | <u>33</u> | <u>John Martyn</u>      | <u>Miner</u>                          | <u>Worthing Crawford</u>     | <u>Worthing Crawford</u>                     |
| BRIDE       | <u>Liverpool</u>   | <u>N.S.W.</u>   | <u>23</u> | <u>John James Woods</u> | <u>Carrier</u>                        | <u>Elizabeth Maxwell</u>     | <u>Elizabeth Maxwell</u>                     |